

# SBARA's Groundplane

SEPTEMBER 2010  
FREMONT, CA.

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 9



ARRL Member  
Club Since 1974



## *The Monthly Newsletter of the South Bay Amateur Radio Association*

### *Presidents Corner*

Stop, take a breath, and look around. Every now and again, regardless as to what we are doing, sometimes we need to take a moment to regroup. We need to evaluate our efforts and determine if we are on target with our goals. If we are, great. Maybe this would be a good time to tweak our strategy. If we are not on target, then what? We assess what we are doing, determine where we are failing, and come up with ideas to get us on course again. Whatever the case, we just need to stop, take a breath, and look around.

This club is about providing a service to its members, and help the community in areas of communications. So how are we doing? It is exciting to see a small club like ours doing the things it does. But it is time to assess our progress and to evaluate where we are. It is time to stop, take a breath, and look around. Only this time, I'd like to make a call out to all members to send me feedback. Let me know what is going well and what we are missing in this club. Send your comments to my email address: [KI6TCE@ARRL.NET](mailto:KI6TCE@ARRL.NET).

Our executive board members have done a bang-up job in establishing a VE Group, helping

the Youth Group, and planning for our various events. While all that in itself is enough to keep the board busy, it also keeps the board from considering other ideas. That is where you come in. What one thing can your club do to make it a little better than what it is today?

All we're asking is that you stop, take a breath, and look around. Let us know what you see.

Jim Thomas, KI6TCE  
SBARA President

### **September Meeting Special Guest**

Bob Valio, W6RGG - Bob is an accomplished CW DXer and contester. His DX operations include FO0XX (Clipperton Island-twice!), XF4L, 6Y5BF, 5W1AZ, KP2A, 4U0ITU, VP5VW and 5V7A. Perhaps best known as the fist behind the W6TI Sunday night CW DX bulletins for more than 30 years, Bob has also served in various capacities on the Yasme Foundation, the Northern California DX Foundation, the ARRL DX Advisory Committee, and the Northern California DX Club. Bob first made Top of the Honor Roll in 1982, and has twice been named NCDXC DXer of the Year.



### **Special Interest...**

- September Meeting Special Guest
- Club 2011 Nominations

### **Table of Contents**

Presidents Corner	1
Pacificon	2
VE News	3
WWWaves	4
SBARA Club Information	6
Wrapper	10

## The ARRL Pacific Division Convention

October 15-17th San Ramon Marriott Hotel— San Ramon, Ca.

### Pacificon 2010 - the West Coast Ham Radio Convention is Back!

After a one year hiatus, **PACIFICON 2010**, the great west coast ham radio convention, returns to the San Francisco Bay Area and will again be sponsored by the Mount Diablo Amateur Radio Club. **Pacificon 2010** will take place Friday, October 15th through Sunday, October 17th, at the San Ramon Marriott Hotel at 2600 Bishop Drive in San Ramon, California. Events and

schedules continue to be updated as it gets closer to the convention. More details are contained within our website: <http://www.pacificon.org/>



#### The Radio Amateur Is:

**Considerate**... never knowingly operates in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

**Loyal**... offers loyalty, encouragement, and support to other amateurs, local clubs, and the ARRL, through which Amateur Radio in the US is represented nationally and internationally.

**Progressive**... with knowledge abreast of science, a well-built and efficient station and operation above reproach.

**Friendly**... slow and patient operating when requested; friendly advice and counsel to the beginner; kindly assistance, cooperation and consideration for interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.

**Balanced**...radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school, or community.

**Patriotic**... station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

### September

11-13 [September VHF QSO Party](#)

18-19 [10 GHz and Up Contest \(round 2\)](#)

**ARRL Contests**

## Tri-City VE News

### Concept to Reality

Ten months ago Tri City VE Group wasn't even a concept. Then ideas stirred and took form. September 11th we'll hold our seventh session and we have much to be grateful for.

First thank you to SBARA for club sponsorship and funding. Thanks to the Board of Directors for guidance and for giving us the latitude to grow into what Bernhard and I envisioned.

Thank you to Hurricane Electric for providing a fabulous facility and for supporting all our ham activities. You're wonderful to work with.

Volunteers make it all possible, and we've had many. Because of them, Tri City VE Group is becoming known for what Jon Gefaell K6OJ calls our "concierge level service." Being able to combine many volunteers with a large facility, we're able to position a person to welcome a candidate once they enter the facility, offer a guide as escort between stations, a Congratulations Kit person to provide vital information, and a PTT person to get them on the air within minutes of passing their Technician Level exam.

Our volunteers have proven to be flexible - learning our grading process, how to proctor and how forms must be filled out to ensure FCC compliance. They exude enthusiasm and caring at each session. They come early to help set up and stay late to debrief so we can continue to learn from each experience. We wouldn't exist without them. Each one of you make a difference.

Thanks to Al Rendon WT6K and Bernhard Hailer AE6YN for building our "Ham Test" signs which identify our location. To Sid Parker KA6YBK for providing excellent materials for the Congratulations Kit and a special thank you to Robin Yee KI6YTA who donated her laminator for job aids. Not only has she given us necessary supplies like pens, pen holders and an easel, but provided customized Tri City VE Group engraved pencils.

On last thank you needs to be carried by our volunteers. Please relay our appreciation to your loved ones because they are the ones who allow our volunteers to be with us instead of being with them. Please let them know that we acknowledge how very special they are. Their generosity and support is helping our ham community to grow.

73,  
Rita Derbas KI6SSQ



## Interesting WWWaves...

A Collection of Various Websites sent in your friendly neighborhood hams...

You may have seen some crazy antenna ideas such as coke cans, and maybe an umbrella...but scroll down this site and see a guy using a TREE as an antenna!

<http://www.kf4bwg.com>

Seeing is believing, look at this video to see how a radio wave induces a current into a light bulb.

[http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2010/02/seeing\\_radio\\_waves\\_with\\_a\\_light\\_bul.html](http://blog.makezine.com/archive/2010/02/seeing_radio_waves_with_a_light_bul.html)

Wi-Fi Radio Project -

<http://mightyohm.com/blog/2009/05/sneak-peak-at-my-finished-wifi-radio-project/>

No tubes involved, unless you happen to be looking at one to read this ; -) But a new useful web tool was recently launched:

<http://www93.wolframalpha.com/>

From the developers of Mathematica, its "goal is to make all systematic knowledge immediately computable and accessible to everyone." It's a work-in-process, for sure. For example, type something like "capacitive reactance 100 pf at 500 khz" and you'll get a useful result. But it doesn't know the formula for calculating the length of a dipole antenna, and it thinks entries like "12AX7" mean you want to multiply, whereas the same queries on Google get you the answer in a click or two.

### **Sept 25 *Take Flight for Kids***

NASA Ames Moffett Field, Mountain View / Sunnyvale

California [www.takeflightforkids.com](http://www.takeflightforkids.com)

## Call for Nominations

It is hard to believe that it is September already. In just a couple of short months, we will be looking to elect new officers. All four positions are open: President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer. It is an exciting role to play when you are an elected officer. You get to see the inner workings of club management and be a part of the process that produces such quality meetings. It also provides you another opportunity to learn more about the

stewards of the club. Consider running for an office. It isn't difficult, but it is very rewarding. The club benefits from new faces on the executive team, so I urge all new members to throw their name into the nominations. Job descriptions will be made available on-line. See any current officer about taking the next step.

..Jim



# The Groundplane

## ANAHEIM, CA

(Near Disneyland)  
933 N. Euclid St., 92801  
(714) 533-7373  
(800) 854-6046  
Janet, KL7MF, Mgr.  
anaheim@hamradio.com

## BURBANK, CA

1525 W. Magnolia Blvd, 91506  
(818) 842-1786  
(800) 854-6046  
Eric, K6EJC, Mgr.  
Magnolia between  
S. Victory & Buena Vista  
burbank@hamradio.com

## OAKLAND, CA

2210 Livingston St., 94606  
(510) 534-5757  
(800) 854-6046  
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.  
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp  
oakland@hamradio.com

## SAN DIEGO, CA

5375 Kearny Villa Rd., 92123  
(858) 560-4900  
(800) 854-6046  
Jose, XE2SJB, Mgr.  
Hwy. 163 & Claremont Mesa  
sandiego@hamradio.com

## SUNNYVALE, CA

510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085  
(408) 736-9496  
(800) 854-6046  
Jon, K6WV, Mgr.  
So. from Hwy. 101  
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

## NEW CASTLE, DE

(Near Philadelphia)  
1509 N. Dupont Hwy., 19720  
(302) 322-7092  
(800) 644-4476  
Jim, KJ3N, Mgr.  
RT.13 1/4 mi., So. I-295  
newcastle@hamradio.com

## PORTLAND, OR

11705 S.W. Pacific Hwy.  
97223  
(503) 598-0555  
(800) 854-6046  
Leon, W7AD, Mgr.  
Tigard-99W exit  
from Hwy. 5 & 217  
portland@hamradio.com

## DENVER, CO

8400 E. Iliff Ave. #9, 80231  
(303) 745-7373  
(800) 444-9476  
John, W0IG, Mgr.  
denver@hamradio.com

## NEW LOCATION!

## PHOENIX, AZ

10613 N. 43rd Ave, 85029  
(602) 242-3515  
(800) 444-9476  
Gary, N7GJ, Mgr.  
Corner of 43rd Ave & Peoria  
phoenix@hamradio.com

## ATLANTA, GA

6071 Buford Hwy., 30340  
(770) 263-0700  
(800) 444-7927  
Mark, KJ4VO, Mgr.  
Doraville, 1 mi. no. of I-285  
atlanta@hamradio.com

## WOODBIDGE, VA

(Near Washington D.C.)  
14803 Build America Dr. 22191  
(703) 643-1063  
(800) 444-4799  
Steve, W4SHG, Mgr.  
Exit 161, I-95, So. to US 1  
woodbridge@hamradio.com

## SALEM, NH

(Near Boston)  
224 N. Broadway, 03079  
(603) 898-3750  
(800) 444-0047  
Chuck, N1UC, Mgr.  
sales@hamradio.com  
Exit 1, I-93;  
28 mi. No. of Boston  
saalem@hamradio.com

## 12 STORE BUYING POWER



# HAM RADIO OUTLET

WORLDWIDE DISTRIBUTION

## KENWOOD



### TS-2000 HF/VHF/UHF TCVR

- 100W HF, 6M, 2M • 50W 70CM
- 10W 1.2 GHz w/opt UT-20 module
- Built-in TNC, DX packet cluster
- IF Stage DSP • Backlit Front Key Panel

**Call Now For Special Price!**



### TH-F6A

2M/220/440

- Dual Channel Receive
- 1 - 1300 mHz (cell blocked) Rx
- FM, AM, SSB
- 5w 2M/220/440 TX, FM
- 435 Memories
- Li-Ion Battery

**Call For Low Price!**



### TM-D710A 2M/440 Dualband

- 50w 2M & UHF
- Optional Voice synthesizer
- 1000 memories • Dual receive
- Advanced APRS Features
- Echolink ® Ready w/ 10 memories
- Built-in TNC • Sky Command II+
- GPS I/O Port
- Choice of Green/Amber LCD backlight

**Call Now For Special Introductory Price!**

### COAST TO COAST FREE SHIPPING

UPS - Most Items Over \$100



**Rapid Deliveries From  
The Store Nearest To You!**



### VX-8R

50/144/222/440 Handheld

- 5w (1W 222)
- Bluetooth optional
- waterproof/submersible
- 3 ft 30 mins
- GPS/APRS operation optional
- Li-ion Hi-capacity battery
- wide band Rx



## OAKLAND, CA

2210 Livingston St., 94606  
(510) 534-5757  
(800) 854-6046  
Mark, W17YN, Mgr.  
I-880 at 23rd Ave. ramp  
oakland@hamradio.com

## SUNNYVALE, CA

510 Lawrence Exp. #102, 94085  
(408) 736-9496  
(800) 854-6046  
Jon, K6WV, Mgr.  
So. from Hwy. 101  
sunnyvale@hamradio.com

## ICOM



### IC-7000 HF/VHF Transceiver

- 160-10M/6M/2M/70cm
- 2x DSP
- Digital IF filters
- Digital Voice recorder
- 2.5 inch TFT display

**Low Pricing!**



### IC-7600 All mode Transceiver

- 100W HF/6M transceiver, Gen cov. Receiver
- Dual DSP 32 bit
- Three Roofing filters- 3.6, 15khz
- 5.8 inch WQVGA display
- Hi-res real time spectrum scope

**The Ultimate Radio!**

## ALINCO



### DJ-G7T 2m/440/1.2 Triband HT

- Full duplex any two bands
- Internal VOX
- CTCSS/DCS • Tone scan built-in
- Hi-capacity Li-Ion battery
- 1000 Memories

**Low Pricing!**



### DR-135TP 2M mobile

- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 mems • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

**Low Pricing!**

## YAESU



### FT-857D

- Ultra compact HF, VHF, UHF
- 100w HF/6M, 50w 2M, 20w UHF
- DSP included • 32 color display
- 200 mems • Detachable front panel (YSK-857 required)

**Call for Low Price!**



### FT-2000 HF + 6M tcvr

- 100 W w/ auto tuner
- built-in Power supply
- DSP filters / Voice memory recorder
- 3 Band Parametric Mic EQ
- 3 IF roofing filters

**Call Now For Low Pricing!**



# *The Groundplane*

## **South Bay Amateur Radio Association**

**Founded 1974**

**Mailing Address  
Box 8401**

**Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401**

**Web Site — [www.sbara.org](http://www.sbara.org)**

### **President**

Jim Thomas, KI6TCE

### **Vice President**

Robin Yee, KI6YTA

### **Treasurer**

Don Amyx, N6DA

### **Secretary**

Open Board Position

### **Newsletter Editor**

Bill Artelt, WB9YVM

### **Webmaster**

Umesh Ghodke, K6VUG

### **Quartermaster**

Rita Derbas, KI6SSQ

### **Program Facilitator**

Al Rendon, WT6K

### **Photographer**

Dan Curtis, N6WN

## **Fremont Repeaters & Net Information**

WA6PWW - 147.015 +600Khz, PL 103.5

WA6PWW - 223.900 -500Khz, PL 107.2

WA6PWW - 442.600 +5Mhz, PL 107.2

K6AIR - 146.940 -600Khz, PL 123.0

K6AIR - 441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0

ARES - Tuesday @ 7:30pm -

147.015 + PL 103.5

## **SBARA Meeting Location**

Our meeting location is at

Hurricane Electric.

The address in Fremont is:

760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.

Bring your HF transceiver, antenna) or HT !

Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600

Also consider joining us at Wok City Diner  
for Dinner at 6PM

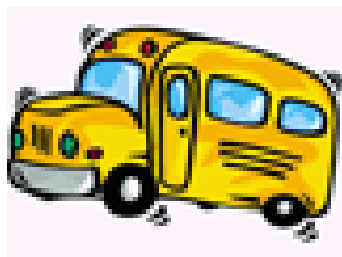
Mingle with your fellow SBARA members !!

The **South Bay Amateur Radio Association** is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. The club has been in existence since 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, a California not-for-profit tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Stat-

utes. We sponsor training for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

SBARA meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fre-

mont, California. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM. After conducting business, coffee and snacks are served while we socialize. Following the break, a program of interest will be presented. All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome. We hope to see you there!



# Announcements

**SBARA's September meeting is the 10th.**

**Our meeting location is at**

**Hurricane Electric**

**60 Mission Court Fremont, Ca.**

**Come to the meeting and bring your;**

**Go Pack, HF Rig, HT, and Antennas!!**

**Talk-In 147.015Mhz. +600**

**Come and join us for fellowship and dinner at**

**Wok City Diner at 6PM !!**

**The Ground Plane — KU6S**

**<http://www.sbara.org>**

**South Bay Amateur Radio Association —  
SBARA**

**P.O. Box 8401**

**Fremont, Ca. 94537-8401**